



Institute for Defense Analyses

1801 N. Beauregard Street • Alexandria, Virginia 22311-1772

**Briefing for Personnel Recovery Conference
28 October 1999**

Policy Issues for Personnel Recovery in a Coalition Environment

**Dr. Michael Burlein
LtGen Devol “Rock” Brett (USAF, Retired)
Mr. Robert Mohan
Mr. Laurence Stucki**



Personnel Recovery in a Coalition Environment

- IDA has commenced a task to provide DPMO with analytical support for developing policy issues to help a CINC execute personnel recovery missions in a coalition environment during operations other than war.
- Goal is to improve effectiveness of personnel recovery missions in operations other than war in a coalition environment.
- Most military operations this century have been coalition efforts.
- War has not been formally declared in numerous military operations this century.



What is IDA?

- **IDA is a Federally Funded Research and Development Center (FFRDC), a non-profit corporation.**
- **“The mission of IDA is to assist the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Joint Staff, the Unified Commands, and Defense Agencies in addressing important national security issues, ...”**
 - **IDA has sometimes assisted non-DoD agencies.**
 - **IDA does NOT work for any specific Service.**



IDA's Tasks

- **Assess CSAR-specific interoperability issues between US and coalition partners.**
- **Assess the impact of coalition partners' different personnel recovery policies on coalition personnel recovery efforts.**
- **Assess the implications, both military and legal, of the reliance of combat forces on DoD or coalition civilians or contract personnel on personnel recovery policies.**
- **Assess the impact on SERE training on the ability of hostile forces to obtain significant personal information on missing personnel via the Internet.**



Initial Priorities

- **Focus first on: Combat Search and Rescue -specific interoperability issues.**
 - **CSAR-specific interoperability issues between US and coalition partners, since Operation Allied Force revealed significant interoperability problems between US and NATO forces.**
 - **The impact of these problems on Joint US-NATO personnel recovery efforts.**
 - **The impact of interoperability problems on joint recovery efforts with other Allies.**
 - **The impact on personnel recovery efforts of the releasability of classified information to none of or a subset of coalition partners.**
- **Initially focus on US-NATO operations.**
 - **Take advantage of Kosovo experience base before it disappears.**
 - **Take advantage of lessons-learned studies on Operation Allied Force.**
 - **CENTCOM/Korea will be studied next.**



Approach

- **Conduct interviews with individuals who were directly involved in Bosnia/Kosovo actions and, in particular, with individuals involved in rescue operations.**
 - Correlate with information from lessons learned studies.
- **Observe exercises in Korea and Europe which involve Personnel Recovery operations.**
- **Visit major military commands involved in or responsible for personnel recovery, especially CENTCOM and SOCOM.**
- **Gather sufficient actual experience information in combination with the views of those individuals and responsible agencies to provide an understanding of the problems and potential solutions for personnel recovery in a coalition environment.**
 - Correlate with information from lessons learned studies.



Secondary Focus

- While focusing on first task, we expect we will also collect information the personnel recovery policies of Allies and coalition partners -- the second task.
 - Begin to learn what their policies are.
 - Begin to understand what they do differently.
 - » Look at ISOPREP, SERE training, recovery operations
 - Ascertain status of planning within theaters.



Reporting

- Draft briefings will be provided to PRAG quarterly.
 - What we've learned.
 - Where we're headed.
- PRAG can provide course corrections as they feel necessary.
- Preliminary findings will be briefed within 12 months.
 - Next year's PR conference.



Appendix A – Backup Slides



CSAR-Specific Interoperability Issues

- **Assess CSAR-specific interoperability issues between US and coalition partners.**
 - **Operation Allied Force revealed significant interoperability problems between US and NATO forces.**
- **Assess the impact of these problems on Joint US-NATO personnel recovery efforts.**
 - **Assess the impact of interoperability problems on joint recovery efforts with other Allies, including South Korea and/or Saudi Arabia.**
 - **Assess the feasibility of conducting joint recovery efforts with non-traditional coalition partners, such as took place with Syria in Operation Desert Storm.**
- **Assess the impact on personnel recovery efforts of the releasability of classified information to none of or a subset of coalition partners.**



Impact of Different Coalition Partners' Policies

- Assess the impact of coalition partners' different personnel recovery policies on coalition personnel recovery.
- Assess the impact of differences between Allied personnel recovery policies.
 - ISOPREP systems, SERE training, recovery operations.
- Assess the limitations to integrating US and coalition rescue efforts as a result of policy restrictions and the impact of those limitations on rescue efforts.
 - Study personnel recovery planning in established theaters of operation
 - Study of lessons learned from previous and ongoing coalition military efforts with traditional and non-traditional coalition partners.



Reliance on Civilians in Potential Combat Zones

- **Assess the implications, both military and legal, of the reliance of combat forces on DoD or coalition civilians or contract personnel on personnel recovery policies.**
 - **Assess the number of non-SERE trained civilians posted in positions where they might become isolated personnel.**
- **Assess the options available for training those civilians and the impact on both budget and training.**
 - **Assess the effects that requirements for various training options would have on DoD's ability to retain qualified civilian personnel.**
- **Assess the impact on a CINC's personnel recovery efforts of the potential need to recover large numbers of non-SERE trained DoD or coalition civilians or contract personnel.**



Impact of Information Availability on Training

- **Assess the impact on SERE training of the ability of hostile forces to obtain significant personal information on missing personnel via the Internet.**
 - Large amounts of personal data are available legally and illegally over the Internet.
 - Assess how the availability of those data should impact resistance training.
- **Assess what policy and/or legal changes may be necessary to protect potentially isolated personnel from having their personal data available to hostile forces.**